

Gulf tanker fire out, leakage stopped, salvage team says

BAHRAIN (R) — A Dutch salvage team has put out the fire aboard a fully-loaded Saudi-registered oil tanker which mysteriously exploded in the Gulf on Wednesday night, giving rise to speculation that it had been fired upon.

A spokesman in Bahrain for the salvage firm Smit International said the tanker, the Safina Al Arab, was no longer spilling oil and that the firefighters were optimistic about saving the vessel and most of its load.

But he warned that its tanks were still hot and that the fire could start again despite continual hosing with water and foam by the team's three powerful tugs. Other shipping sources said the salvage men might anchor the vessel Friday and try to transfer the crude to another tanker.

The cause of the explosion, after which one Filipino member

of the 33-man crew was missing, remained a mystery. But there was increasing speculation among Gulf shipping circles that it may have been hit as a target in the Iran-Iraq war.

Most of the Gulf Arab states, which support Iraq in the war, imposed a news blackout on the incident. Staff at Bahrain's State Radio told Reuters they had been ordered by officials "not to touch" foreign news agency reports on the tanker.

There was still no claim of responsibility or other official comment from Iraq which in the past has been quick to report its air

force attacks on Iranian or other foreign ships it considers to have entered its self-proclaimed prohibited war zone at the north of the Gulf.

Gulf shipping sources quoted the mayday message by the tanker's captain as saying: "We have been shot." He and his crew were picked up by another vessel but their whereabouts were not immediately known Friday.

Iraq, normally quick to report its air attacks on vessels which it says have entered its self-proclaimed prohibited war zone in the northern Gulf, has not yet mentioned the incident.

The 178,808-ton Safina Al Arab, laden with 357,000 tonnes of crude, was bound for France after loading at Iran's Kharg Island and oil terminal when the explosion occurred.

Plates on the giant vessel's hull

were buckled by the blast and fire broke out round its tanks and accommodation section.

The Iranian News Agency IRNA carried a brief report on the stricken tanker late Thursday night and said it was crippled by an "unspecified explosion" in its holds.

Iraq has reported attacks on several non-Iranian merchantmen in the Gulf since declaring the prohibited war zone around Kharg Island and Iran's northern Gulf ports.

The Safina Al Arab is on seven-year charter to a subsidiary of the Swedish group Salvinvest from its owners the Safina Company, based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Saudi rulers, along with those of other Gulf states, have poured billions of dollars into Iraq's long struggle against Iran.

ECWA to study Palestinian conditions

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The 11th session of the Economic Commission of Western Asia (ECWA) concluded its four-day meetings here Thursday with a decision to study the economic conditions and the situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories within a limited period of time, Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

The ECWA also decided to participate in the fourth United Nations Industrial Development Conference which will be held in Vienna next August, Petra said.

Participants also decided to hold four technical meetings between 1986 and 1987 to study subjects related to statistics, production, commodities, new sources of energy, food security in the developing countries and supporting the studies and activities in the field of developing the labour force.

Participants decided to support the ECWA programmes in the field of raising the contribution of the Arab women to the economic development and drawing up a formula for the general policy of the ECWA to be in harmony with its programmes and plans in order to meet its responsibilities.

The participating delegations also decided to amend the article to adopt Arabic language as an official one in functional and administrative matters.

The conferees passed a decision urging the general secretariat of the ECWA to contact the Arab League, its organisations and the Arab regional organisations with a view to work for a regional conference for women.

Arabs to raise funds to restore Jerusalem sites

TUNIS (Petra) — Maintenance and restoration of holy places and archaeological sites in Jerusalem and allocating the required funds for such operations will start forthwith, according to a decision by the executive bureau of the Arab housing and reconstruction ministers, which concluded its meetings here Thursday.

In its final recommendations, the bureau called for the necessity on the part of Arab countries to

participate in the conference of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) which will convene in Gabon at the end of April, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The executive bureau has charged Jordan's Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Hamdullah Al Nabulsi with heading the bureau's delegation to the Habitat conference, Petra added.

Concluding its meetings, the bureau approved a draft agreement for co-operation between the conference members and the Habitat.

It also approved a programme of scientific seminars for the next two years and the proposed budget for 1985.

The next meeting for the executive bureau was set for Nov. 10, 1984, Petra added.

Egyptian envoy starts African tour

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian envoy left for Nigeria Friday at the start of a tour of five African states to explain an Egyptian plan aimed at ending the Gulf war.

Foreign Ministry officials said senior diplomat Ahmad Sidqi was carrying messages detailing the plan to the presidents of Nigeria, Zaire, Senegal, the Ivory Coast and Guinea from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Another envoy, Ahmad Zant, is expected to leave for Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zambia and Kenya Saturday, they added.

Details of the peace plan have not been disclosed, but the semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram said last week it included a ceasefire, formation of a peacekeeping force on the Iran-Iraq border and agreement by both Iran and Iraq to end the conflict through arbitration or negotiations.

Oman may support Egypt's peace plan

DHAKA (R) — Oman may support an Egyptian plan for ending the war between Iran and Iraq, including a proposal for a peace force along their border, Oman's Foreign Minister Yusuf Al-Jawani said.

Mr. Abdullah, who arrived Friday on a two-day visit, was cautiously optimistic about the plan's outcome.

"We will certainly support the proposal if it has a chance of success," he told reporters at the airport.

He said he would discuss with Bangladeshi leaders the question of political and economic co-operation among Muslim Nations.

But he said the Gulf war and the situation in Lebanon would be prominent in his talks here.

Arabs seek support to end Gulf war

BRUSSELS (R) — An Arab League delegation Thursday started a European tour here seeking support for efforts to end the Gulf war and bring Iran to the negotiating table, Belgian officials said.

Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens told the delegation of Jordanian and Yemeni Foreign Ministers Taher Al-Masri and Ahmad Mohammad Al-Asbahi that his country shared its European Community partners' wish

for an early end to the war.

But the Belgian officials said Mr. Martens did not go beyond a statement issued by Community foreign ministers on March 27 calling on Iran and Iraq to co-operate in the search for a peaceful solution honourable to them both.

Arab League foreign ministers decided last month to actively seek world pressure on Iran to end the three-year-old war which has heightened tension in the Gulf.

A league spokesman said the Arab envoys were also trying to stem the illicit export of weapons from Europe which enabled Iran to continue its attack on Iraqi territory and maintain its refusal to join peace talks.

Belgium was not particularly suspected as a source of illegal weapons to Iran and Mr. Martens assured the ministers that Brussels would continue to ban their export.

Israel denies arms sales to Nicaraguan rebels

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A row has erupted in Israel over allegations that the government is providing arms to U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman took the unusual step of specifically denying that Israel had

supplied weapons to the rebels, as reported this week by American NBC Television.

"Normally we do not discuss arms sales at all but this allegation is so baseless and casts such a slur upon Israel's image that we decided to make a public denial," an official told reporters Thursday.

The affair has focused attention on talks in Washington between Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche and U.S. officials on Israeli aid to Central America.

In the NBC report, a Nicaraguan rebel commander said his group's Soviet-made weapons were from a batch Israel captured from Palestinian commandos in the 1982 Lebanon war.

The rebels were said to prefer such weapons because they can use ammunition captured from the Soviet-supplied Nicaraguan

Army.

Yair Tsaban, a left-wing Israeli parliamentarian, says he has information indicating Israel has supplied the rebels with arms. He has called for a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. Tsaban told the newspaper Al-Hamishmar that the supplies began after a visit to Honduras by then Defence Minister Ariel Sharon in December 1982.

He said Mr. Sharon met the Honduran chief of staff, described as a rebel supporter, to arrange the sales.

The Jerusalem Post devoted a long editorial to the issue Thursday, also suggesting that deliveries were made through Honduras where the rebels have bases.

The newspaper said a thorough review of the subject would be held after Israel's general elections in July.

Lebanese envoy to return to Libya

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's ambassador to Libya is to return to his post almost a year after Tripoli ordered him to leave, official sources said Friday. Libya ordered Ambassador Nizar Farhat to quit Tripoli after Lebanon signed a U.S.-sponsored troop withdrawal agreement with Israel on May 17 last year. Libya recalled its ambassador in Beirut at the same time.

Kuwait deports over 250 people

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has deported between 250 and 300 people for political reasons since a wave of bombings hit the country to December, a senior government official said Thursday.

General Youssef Bader Al-Kharafi, undersecretary in the Ministry of Interior, said those deported were of different nationalities and had been expelled from the country because of their "political notions".

He told Reuters the deportations were one result of a tightening of security after the bombings, which hit the U.S. and French embassies and government installations, leaving six dead and more than 80 injured.

A three-man state security court sentenced five Iraqis and a Lebanese to death by hanging last month following their conviction of involvement in the bombings.

The six, of whom three are still at large, were among 25 accused of involvement in the attacks.

Gen. Kharafi said the government was taking seriously repeated threats of attacks in Kuwait but also on Kuwaiti diplomats and embassies, particularly in Europe, that it had received since the trial.

He said the threats had been received in telephone calls and by mail from extremist groups such as the Islamic Jihad (holy struggle) and Al-Mujaheddin guerrilla groups.

Kuwait regularly deports around 2,000 people a year for non-political reasons, usually associated with entering the country illegally.

Gen. Kharafi said there remained many members of the Al-Daawa Al-Islamia (Islamic call) group in Kuwait, but added the government would not bother them if they did nothing wrong.

Prior to the bombings trial, which started in February, the accused were said to have had links with Al-Daawa, a shadowy

Shi'ite Muslim group.

Gen. Kharafi said he had received no word on the hangings of those sentenced to death by the State Security Court.

The death sentences cannot be carried out before they are ratified by the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

But Gen. Kharafi said security would be tightened further if the hangings took place.

He said Kuwait had tightened restrictions on entering the country but had not stopped issuing visas and no-object certificates for those wishing to come in.

About 50 per cent of Kuwait's 1.7 million people are non-Kuwaitis.

"After the bombings we have to look carefully at the people who are coming in," Gen. Kharafi said.

A number of plans were now under study to improve security in the country, he said, but he declined to elaborate.

Torture rife in Turkey, Amnesty says

BRUSSELS (R) — Torture of political prisoners, harassment of the press and other human rights abuses are rife in Turkey despite the country's partial handover to civilian control, the European Parliament heard Thursday.

Anne Burley, research officer with Amnesty International — the political human rights organisation — told a hearing the steps taken by the new civilian government, which came to power in December, were inadequate.

"The systematic and widespread torture which takes place in Turkey could only occur with official tolerance," she said.

She added hundreds of political prisoners were still in jail, more than 200 condemned to death, and military prosecutors in current trials had requested the death penalty for many more.

Ms. Burley said the civilian authorities had no jurisdiction over the main Turkish provinces, still under military control.

Peter Galline, director of the International Press Institute, said journalists in Turkey risked persecution and harassment. Restrictive press laws and strong military pressure made by moves towards a greater freedom of expression unlikely.

Mr. Galline said the closing down of newspapers had become commonplace, and editors were expected to use self-censorship.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions complained at the "flagrant and persistent" abuse of trade union and other human rights in Turkey.

Amnesty said prisoners at Diyarbakir in the south-east, were regularly beaten up, tortured and

in some cases burned to death.

2 policemen jailed

In Istanbul, a military court Thursday jailed two Turkish policemen to six years and eight months each for torturing a man to death, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported.

It convicted Kadri Alpekcin and Osman Orduhan of torturing student Ekrem Eksik until he died when he was held in detention during a police operation in 1980, the agency said.

It gave no further details.

The government has replied to widespread allegations of torture and mistreatment by saying it will prosecute any case brought to its attention.

Convicted murderers are usually sentenced to death or to jail sentences of more than 20 years in Turkey.

Turkish prime minister flies to Tehran today

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal flies to Tehran Saturday on his first official visit abroad since he came to power last December after general elections ended three years of military rule.

His two-day trip, at the invitation of the Iranians, caps a week-long effort by Turkey to boost its already highly valuable trade with Tehran.

Last weekend, State Minister Ismail Ozdogar travelled to Tehran accompanied by more than 200 businessmen in what newspapers here have dubbed a trade invasion.

Officials say the immediate aim was to raise Turkish exports to Iran — which range from food through iron and steel to plastics — to \$1.5 billion this year to balance oil imports from Iran of around five million tonnes, more than a third of Turkish oil imports.

Last year, Turkish exports to Iran reached \$1.08 billion, its biggest to any one country, with imports reaching \$1.22 billion.

Longer term projects for discussion include possible crude oil and natural gas pipelines, more work for Turkish contractors in



Turgut Ozal

channels to Tehran after the overthrow of the Shah and has observed an unwavering neutrality in the war between its neighbours Iran and Iraq.

Its neutral stance has led Turkey at least once to try to mediate an end to the war. Earlier this year, President Kenan Evren refused a trip to Saudi Arabia saying he was willing to try again.

But the government has since spelt out that it will not take any initiative until both Tehran and Baghdad request it and officials say so far there has been no indication that Iran is changing its stance of spurning mediation.

"Mr. Ozal is not going to Iran in any way as mediator," said one senior official.

Mr. Ozal is likely to re-iterate Turkey's concern that fighting in the war could threaten a vital oil pipeline to Turkey from Iraq or stir up trouble from Kurdish separatists in the mainly Kurdish border region of the three nations.

Turkey issued stiff warnings to both sides last year when fighting on the northern and central war fronts was fierce that it would not tolerate any threat to its vital interests. Since then, both areas have

been relatively quiet.

Other topics could cover the thousands of Iranians still fleeing every year across the border into Turkey as well as drugs and other smuggling rife along the same remote frontier.

The senior official acknowledged that Turkey's position as a member of the NATO alliance and a close friend of many Middle Eastern countries made its links with Iran unique.

"This could benefit all sides," he added.

"But the prime minister is not acting as some sort of channel for others," he added.

Officials note that previous practice by new Turkish prime ministers has been to visit Iran and Pakistan first, which with Turkey are in the process of reviving a trilateral Regional Co-operation for Development (RCD) group.

Mr. Ozal is scheduled to visit Pakistan next month, followed by a visit to Libya, another valuable trading partner.

One concern here over Mr. Ozal's trip to Tehran has been a possible threat from Armenian commando groups who last month wounded two diplomats in attacks on Turkish targets in Tehran.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
17:30 Koran
17:45 Cartoons
18:00 Children Programme
18:20 Local Programme
18:30 Whiz Kids
19:20 Programme Review
19:30 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Jordan in the Islamic History
21:00 Islamic Film: Reflections of Muslim
22:00 News in English
22:15 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Jordan in the Islamic History
21:00 Feature Film: Ryan's Daughter
22:00 News Summary
22:15 Feature Film Continued

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 95.60 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 News Summary
11:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:10 Old Favorites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Music
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News Summary
19:30 News Bulletin
20:00 Good Old Days
20:30 Just A Minute
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Country Music
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Play of the Week
22:05 News Summary
22:05 Classical Concert
22:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE
630, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 That's The Word
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 British Press Review
07:15 About Britain 07:30 New Ideas
07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Album Time 08:35 World News 08:59 News about Britain 09:15 From the Weeklies 09:30 Classical Record Review 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections of Muslim 10:15 World News 10:30 World News 10:39 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 People and Politics 12:15 World News 12:30 World News 12:39 World News 12:59 News about Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newswatch 14:05 News in Arabic 14:15 Sports Round-up 14:30 World News 14:59 Commentary 15:15 World News 15:59 Album Time 16:00 Saturday Special 17:00 Radio Newswatch 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 World News 19:09 Book Choice 19:15 Baker's Half Dozen 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Play of the Week: Rage Among Lions 21:30 Album Time 22:00 World News 22:09 Commentary 22:15 Good Books 22:30 Twists 22:15 What's New 22:30 People and Politics 24:00 World News 00:09 From our own Correspondent 00:30 News Ideas 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Letterbox 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA
1260 MW, 7200, 9563, 11740 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report; science and medicine; sports reports; editorial; world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; American viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10 This Week 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 American viewpoints 18:30 Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:10 This Week 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:30 Weekend Survey of World News, Correspondents' Reports, Music, Cultural Events and Features

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

LECTURE
* A lecture on the Mevlana's campaigns by Dr. Axel Knaul at the Goethe Institute at 7:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS
* Important Orientalist prints of the 19th Century.

* Exhibition of paintings by Kamal Bouharra at the Jordan National Gallery, open.

* Photographs exhibition by Saleh Oab-baken opens at the Professional Association Complex.

* The Bahrain Exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of important oriental prints from the 19th century at Alia Art Gallery.

* Australian graphic art Donatella Patterson at Alia Art Gallery.

FILMS
* "Kamikaze" at the Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.

VIDEO
* Zaidi ou la Destinée at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

MUSEUMS
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267
American Centre Library 44371
American Centre Library 44370
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
American Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

CULTURAL CEN. RES
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre.

Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al-Qaf'a (Chapel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists: artists. Muntazah, Jabel Leveideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Lions Amman Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club: Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leveideh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Association (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES
03:24 Fajr
04:52 Sunrise Shuruq
11:34 Noon
15:14 Asr
18:15 Maghrib
19:43 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 33250, 33070, 33082, 33171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:00 Cairo (MS)
08:00 Amman (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:35 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
09:50 Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:25 Laraca (CY)
14:40 Kuwait (KU)
16:00 Belgrade, Istanbul (OA)
17:10 Paris, Damascus (AZ)
17:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:15 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
17:50 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
19:00 Tripoli (RJ)
19:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
20:05 Cairo (RJ)
08:30 Baghdad (RJ)
09:05

DEPARTURES

05:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:45 Amman (RJ)
08:00 Cairo (MS)
08:30 Amman (RJ)
10:30 Tripoli (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
11:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:15 Laraca (CY)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:30 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
12:45 Laraca (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:00 Kuwait (KU)
15:30 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
16:40 Jeddah (RJ)
18:15 Baghdad (RJ)
18:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
09:05 Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

Cement firm makes profit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Due to a translation error, the Jordan Times reported in its Thursday (April 26, 1984) edition that the Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) had sustained losses over the past two years.

The company in question, according to a report in Al Dustour newspaper, was the Jordan Fertilizer Industries Company, and not JCFC.

The JCFC has realised considerable profits over the past two years, according to a company spokesman. The cement company's records indicate that a total of JD 4,512,413 in profits were made from April 1, 1983 until Dec. 31, 1983 compared with JD 3,794,454 from April 1, 1982 until March 31, 1983, the spokesman said.

JCFC will by the end of this month distribute dividends and profits to shareholders amounting to 12 per cent of the nominal value of its shares.

According to the JCFC spokesman, the cement company paid to the treasury JD 14.5 million in the first nine months of 1983. The Jordan Times apologises for the error.



TRANSPORT TALKS: His Majesty King Hussein receives Iraqi Minister of Transport and Communications Abdul Jabbar Abdul Rahim Al Asadi (second from right) at the Royal Court Thursday in the company of Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat (no his right) and Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Al Sultan (Petra photo)

Senate considers temporary laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) has approved 17 temporary laws relating to the national budget between the period 1974 to 1983, referred to by the Lower House of Parliament.

In the Senate session held Thursday under the chairmanship of Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi in the

presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sulaiman Arar and a number of ministers, the house referred to its Legal and Financial Committees a series of laws related to the civil retirement law during between the period 1974 to 1981. The committees will study these laws and present their views and recommendations for discussion in

the next session of the house.

Also referred to the Financial Committee were a series of temporary laws related to production duty levied on local manufactured products during the period of 1980 to 1981.

The Senate is scheduled to hold its next session Wednesday morning.

Hussein meets U.S. information head

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday received the visiting director of the United States Information Agency (USIA), Charles Z. Wick, and discussed with him the latest developments in international communications and the role of the USIA.

They also discussed bilateral co-operation in education, cultural and information affairs. Later Thursday Her Majesty Queen Noor received Mr. and Mrs. Wick and discussed with them the cultural exchange programme.

Minister of Information Laith

Sharaf also received at her office Thursday Mr. Wick, who is on a several day tour to Jordan.

The meeting discussed Jordanian-US relations in addition to the role of cultural centres and their fields of work.

Mrs. Sharaf also discussed with Mr. Wick information and culture issues in the rapid communications age as well as the future of media communications in relation to the use of satellites. Attending the meeting was the U.S. Ambassador in Amman Richard Vies.

Earlier Thursday Mr. Wick chaired a meeting of 23 regional directors of U.S. information centres to discuss issues related to the activities of U.S. information centres.

Mr. Wick arrived Amman Wednesday during which he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on U.S.-Jordanian relations and co-operation in information and international communications fields.

The USIA is an independent organisation within the executive branch responsible for the U.S. government's overseas information and cultural programmes, including the Voice of America and the Fulbright Scholarship programme.

Iraqi minister discusses importation of local goods

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior official from the Iraqi Ministry of Trade, Mr. Ghaleb Al Radi, has held talks with the Amman Chamber of Commerce President Isam Budeir on manufactured products which Iraq intends to buy from Jordan.

According to Mr. Budeir, the Iraqi authorities have issued licences to Iraqi merchants to import certain commodities, and each merchant is allowed to buy up to

5,000 Iraqi dinars worth of Jordanian products.

The Iraqi merchants are allowed to purchase products from seven countries including Jordan, Mr. Budeir said.

Mr. Budeir said that Jordanian producers had been asked to supply the Jordanian trade centre in Baghdad with samples of their products with specifications and prices suitable for the Iraqi market.

Labourers clinic opens in poor area

AMMAN (J.T.) — A medical clinic for labourers was opened at Jabal Al Hashimi Thursday by Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni deputising for Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat.

The clinic, which cost JD 41,000 to build, is the fruit of co-operation between the Health Ministry, the Labour Ministry and the General Federation of Overland Transport (GFOT) in Jordan.

Dr. Ajlouni said in a speech that the clinic was badly needed in the poor district of Hashimi where a large number of labourers live.

He also expressed appreciation to the GFOT for contributing to the establishment of the clinic and its management.

Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul

Jaber spoke about joint efforts by the ministry and the General Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions in opening medical clinics for workers around the country.

GFOT President Sami Mansour also spoke on the occasion and announced that the federation will start building hospital for labourers in Aqaba in the coming year.

Islamic academy debates forthcoming new projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The restoration of transcripts in the Jerusalem project, designing social and economic development projects in the light of Islamic teaching, a project for the comprehensive indexing of Islamic Arab folklore and plastic arts as well as an Islamic demographic project, were the subjects of discussion in Thursday's session of the third annual meeting of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation), which resumed its meeting at the Regency Palace Hotel under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The conference also decided to form four committees to study these four projects which form the basis of the academy's second programme and these committees will start meeting Saturday.

Prince Hassan will deliver a lecture on Israeli settlement policy prior to the meetings of these committees.

Addressing the opening session of the meeting Prince Hassan, in delivering the inaugural speech, said that the Arab Nation is at present plagued by divisions and differences of opinion, and inter-

opening the conference at the Royal Cultural Centre, called for concerted efforts by Arab scholars, who he said, can shape an Islamic reply to the contemporary challenges and find solutions to problems facing the Arab World.

He also warned Arab countries that their enemies are seeking to divide them and to set one state against another in a bid to destroy their economic resources and sap their manpower capabilities and obliterate their identity.

Taking part in the five-day conference are 130 scholars and Muslim intellectuals from 32 countries.

Meanwhile, Prince Hassan Thursday hosted a dinner in honour of the delegations participating in the meeting of the academy.

Syrian team negotiates to mato, fruit purchase

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the Syrian Ministry of Supply has arrived here for talks on purchasing Jordanian agricultural produce, according to a report in Al Dustour daily Arabic newspaper Thursday.

It said that the delegation will negotiate the purchase of at least 3,000 tonnes of citrus fruit and 200 tonnes of tomatoes.

The delegation members had talks with officials from the Jordan Co-operative Organisation on fac-

ilitating the transportation of Jordanian vegetables and fruit to Syria in accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries last year, the paper said.

Under that agreement, the two countries can exchange products worth JD 7 million but only JD 4.5 million worth of products have so far been traded, the paper added.

It quoted a delegation spokesman as saying that 12,000 tonnes of Jordanian tomatoes and aubergines will be shipped to Syria in the coming month.

Conference continues on role of women

AMMAN (Petra) — The 11th session of the Arab Women's Committee Thursday resumed its meeting under the chairmanship of Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir, president of the National Federation of Jordanian Women.

Participants discussed three working papers, one on Jordanian working women and their role in agriculture, industry and commerce, presented to the session by Mrs. Buthaina Jardaneh, the second on women in Syria and their role in development while the third was about women and employment in Iraq.

The Jordanian paper said that the proportion of Jordanian women to men working in the ind-

ustrial sector is about 19 per cent. The rate of those working in the wholesale trade stands at about seven per cent while about seven per cent are also working in the retail trade.

At Wednesday's session of the conference, which is being jointly organised by the Arab League and the Ministry of Social Development in Jordan, Mrs. Habibah Barqawi, head of the Arab League women's department, reviewed activities and objectives of the Arab Women's Voluntary Fund.

Representative of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, Mrs. Nimreh Tannous Al Said, proposed that education policy in the Arab World and the image of

women in the Arab information media be taken into consideration. Mrs. Barqawi then spoke about the impact of demographic changes on women and the family and the effects of migration particularly the forced migration of the Palestinian people.

Dr. Mohammad Talal, a Moroccan expert, who presented a study on the image of women in the Arab information media, said that the problems women in the Arab World are suffering from manifold.

Head of the Adult Teaching and Illiteracy Division at the Ministry of Education, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Momani, presented a study about adult teaching and the eradication of illiteracy in Jordan.

Following this, the participants listened to a briefing about the role of women's federations in the occupied Arab territories presented by president of the Palestinian Women's Federation, Mrs. Isam Abdul Hadi.

Mrs. Abdul Hadi said that there are 125 centres at which to teach illiterate people in the occupied Arab territories.

Surgeons open conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Society of Surgeons (JSS) held their conference at the Professional Association Complex in Amman Thursday, which was attended by nearly 180 physicians and surgeons.

A total of 13 working papers pertaining mainly to the treatment of victims of road accidents in Jordan, first aid dealing with the effects of anaesthetics, children's injuries, and a study of liver related diseases.

The society's president, Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Bilbeisi, said in a statement that JSS, which was established in 1972, has been holding conferences and medical seminars to highlight the advanced standards and great experience of Jordanian surgeons and to familiarise medical institutions and the Jordanian public on the research work being carried out by Jordanian surgeons.

Police arrest four after stor ny night of crime

AMMAN (J.T.) Amman police have caught a group of thieves who robbed stores and stole a small lorry during the stormy weather on the night of April 15.

A police spokesman was quoted as saying that the three robbers first stole a lorry at Hay Nazzal and then broke into 13 stores and a grocery in Hay Hamlan, both districts of Amman.

The lorry, containing the stolen items, was eventually abandoned by the robbers after being spotted by a citizen living in the area.

Satellite commissioning date nears

AMMAN (Petra) — A decision to adopt the operation guide for the ArabSat system was Thursday adopted by the Arab Satellite Communication Organisation's General Assembly.

During Thursday's session, a decision that the wealthy Arab countries should buy the additional shares of the organisation thus raising its liquidity was taken.

As the date of commissioning is nearing, the assembly decided to charge ArabSat to change the space communication channels in the various Arab countries so that they pass through the Arab satellite whenever this is possible.

The ArabSat meeting started in Amman Tuesday under the chairmanship of Jordanian Minister of Communications Mohammad Addnab Al Zabao.

Following the adoption of the meeting's agenda, the conferees discussed in detail the organisation board of directors' report about the achievements of the organisation during 1983.

The debate resulted in a decision to form a higher committee, which will comprise Dr. Zaben and Mr. Alawi Kayyal the minister of telegraphs, posts and telephones from Saudi Arabia.

The committee will help the board of directors in their activities during the current session, Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The committee, Petra added, will settle all administrative and organisational affairs necessitated by the nature of the present stage of the organisation's life and its executive departments.

The general assembly also decided to renew the contract of the director-general, Mr. Ali Al Vahbat, for another three years, Petra quoted Dr. Zaben as saying.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cement firm shareholders to meet today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) will hold its annual general meeting in Amman Saturday under the chairmanship of its board chairman, Zuhair Asfour. The assembly will discuss the company report on the financial year ending on Dec. 31, 1983, and the general accounts report. The JCFC intends to distribute dividends of 12 per cent of the nominal value of the shares to the shareholders by the end of this month.

Six die in week's road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Six people were killed and 86 others injured in 172 road accidents which occurred around the country last week, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Traffic Department here. It said that most of the accidents occurred in Amman then followed by Balqa, Badia, Irbid and Karak.

Ministry bans import of produce in May

AMMAN (Petra) — The importing of tomatoes, aubergines, cucumbers, marrows, broad beans, hot and sweet peppers, cauliflower, cabbages, honeydew melons, water melons, green beans and garlic has been prohibited under the trade plan issued by the Ministry of Agriculture for the period May 1 to May 31. The plan also prohibited the importing of citrus fruit, apples, bananas and other kinds of fresh fruit while the export of all these vegetables and fruits have been allowed under the scheme.

Arabsat delegates thank Hassan

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegations participating in the seventh session of the general assembly of Arabsat, the Arab Satellite Communication Organisation, Wednesday sent a cable of thanks to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who deputised for His Majesty King Hussein in opening the session.

Outsiders invited to oversee medical exam

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Medical Council (JMC) has decided to invite physicians and specialists from Arab and foreign countries to supervise the examinations for new doctors. According to the council's secretary-general a new doctor has to pass a written and oral examination before he or she can be registered with the Jordanian Medical Association.

Ministers to discuss transport company

AMMAN (Petra) — The ministers of transport in Iraq and Jordan will Saturday hold talks on ways of developing the work and activities of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company. The Iraqi minister, Abdul Jabbar Al Assadi, and his Jordanian counterpart Taher Hikmat will be accompanied by aides to the talks which will also cover the company's future programme.

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Qatar clinches Olympic berth

SINGAPORE (R) — Qatar clinched a place in the Los Angeles Olympic soccer tournament with a 2-1 win over Japan in the Asia-Oceania qualifying tournament here Thursday.

Qatar finished top of Group 'B' and joined Saudi Arabia, who won Group 'A' as one of three Asian qualifiers. The third place will be decided on Sunday in a runners-up playoff.

Qatar led 1-0 at halftime against a spirited Japan team who finished bottom of the group without a single point from four matches.

The only blot on Qatar's triumph came in the 78th minute when Philippines referee Tuluk Gurkan dismissed Qatar team manager Abdul Rahman Al Nocimi for persistently giving instructions from the touchline.

A crowd of 20,000 at the Singapore National Stadium saw Qatar go ahead after 22 minutes through striker Ibrahim Khalifa Ahmad's powerful, low 30-metre shot.

Ibrahim, who scored four goals in four matches, had the chance of a fifth in the 42nd minute after Japanese skipper Hisashi Kato handled his point blank shot near the penalty spot, but Ibrahim's spot kick was brilliantly saved by Kazumi Tsubota.

A cross from the left slammed home by striker Hiroshi Hara spoiled Qatar goalkeeper Mohammad Wafa Sami's unbeaten record in the tournament after seven minutes of the second half.

Qatar snatched the winner in

the 64th minute when Tsubota fumbled a long range shot by Qatar full-back Mohammad Deham Al Sowaidi. The ball bounced off the goalkeeper's chest and striker Khaled Jalnam pounced to slot home from close range.

Iraq qualified to meet South Korea in a play-off for the third

Olympic place from the Asia-Oceania group when they beat Malaysia 2-0 in a second Group 'B' match.

Karim Alawie shot Iraq 1-0 up after 37 minutes following fine work by skipper Hussain Saeed Mohammad. And Mohammad made it 2-0 18 minutes from time when he headed home Matik Abidann's right wing cross.

The win ensured Iraq finished behind group winners Qatar to meet Group 'A' runners-up South Korea on Sunday.

Olympic official says Britain must apply for Budd clearance

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — A senior Olympic official said Friday that Britain must apply for clearance or South African-born barefoot runner Zola Budd will not be able to run in the Los Angeles Summer Games.

W. Daume, West German chairman of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) rules she must reside for three years in her adopted country before becoming eligible but the period can be reduced or abolished by the IOC if Britain and the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) make a joint application.

"It is absolutely necessary that the British National Olympic Committee (NOC) and the IAAF make an application," said Daume. "If not, Budd will have to wait three years."

Opponents of apartheid have raised controversy over her case and the wait-like white athlete was jeered by several black demonstrators during a track appearance in London on Wednesday.

Under International Olympic Committee (IOC) rules she must reside for three years in her adopted country before becoming eligible but the period can be reduced or abolished by the IOC if Britain and the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) make a joint application.

"It is absolutely necessary that the British National Olympic Committee (NOC) and the IAAF make an application," said Daume. "If not, Budd will have to wait three years."

Sports chiefs meet YWO director

AMMAN (Petra) — The sports federations remarks on the unified sports federations list will be discussed Saturday during a meeting between the Youth Welfare Organisation (YWO) Director General Mohammad Jamil Abu Al Tayyeb and chairman and secretaries of the Jordanian sports federations.

The remarks which were received Thursday will be presented for debate at the meeting to be held at Hussein Youth City Sports Palace, in preparation for issuing annexes to this list and initiating some amendments whenever the demand warrants.

Daume said that his commission, which met in Lausanne Friday, could make no recommendation to the IOC because Britain had not filed an application.

He noted that the IOC executive board will next meet in Lausanne from May 28 to 30 but said that until an application was received nothing could be done.

Asked whether he believed that the board would approve an application and allow Budd to compete, Daume replied: "The Olympic committee is here to help young people."

Budd sprang to prominence in January when she won a 5,000 metres race in South Africa almost seven seconds inside the world record.

Liverpool, United go into vital matches without captains

LONDON (R) — Liverpool and Manchester United, separated by only two points at the top of the English soccer league, go into key matches Saturday without their captains.

Leaders Liverpool, chasing their seventh crown in nine seasons and their third in succession, play hosts to struggling Ipswich without Graeme Souness. He is serving a one match suspension after collecting too many disciplinary points following his booking at Stoke earlier this month.

And second-placed United entertain West Ham without England captain Bryan Robson, who is still suffering from the hamstring injury which caused him to miss both legs of United's European Cup

Winners' Cup semifinal defeat against Italy's Juventus.

But Robson is hoping to be back in time to boost United's title challenge against Everton next weekend.

United can ill afford to drop any points Saturday. With five matches left, time is running short for Ron Atkinson's side to catch and overtake Liverpool, who have a better goal difference and an easier looking run-in.

United face tough away games at Everton and Tottenham next month while Liverpool's schedule includes away games at lowly Birmingham and Notts County.

Ipswich, even in the days of international Paul Mariner, Alan Brazil and Arnold Muhren, have

never won at Anfield. And they are unlikely to break that sequence Saturday when they face a Liverpool side buoyed by their European Cup semifinal win over Dinamo Bucharest on Wednesday.

Ipswich manager Bobby Ferguson said: "We've been to Liverpool in the past and given some tremendous performances but we've never won there. This time we'll be taking a bunch of kids."

Meanwhile in the university town of Cambridge, academic calm will be shattered by an invasion of thousands of Newcastle United supporters desperate to roar their side — Kevin Keegan and all — back into the first division.

Hassan presents awards to winners AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Friday patronised the Kingdom's Tai Kwan Do finals for youths and beginners.

At the end of the ceremony which took place at the Hussein Youth City's Sports Palace, Crown Prince Hassan presented awards to the winners.

Connors, Arias reach WCT Dallas finals

DALLAS (R) — Jimmy Connors and Jimmy Arias reached the semifinals of the World Championship Tennis (WCT) finals tournament Thursday night before an unruly crowd more interested in listening to radio reports of a basketball game.

Connors, seeded second, was clearly upset by the antics of the crowd during his clash with fellow-American Tim Mayotte.

He dropped the opening set as sections of the crowd cheered loudly as they listened to radio reports of the crucial National Basketball Association playoff game

between Dallas Mavericks and Seattle SuperSonics.

But Connors fought back to win 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-3 and line-up a clash with 19-year-old third seed Arias, who dismissed Eliot Teltscher 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 in a second all-American quarter-final.

The crowd laughed when Connors dribbled a tennis ball and shot an imaginary basket. But the 31-year-old U.S. Open Champion was, in fact, making his own form of protest.

At one stage in the first set, Connors was reprimanded by the umpire for making an obscene remark about the crowd after dropping his serve to go 5-4 down. He responded by spitting water from his mouth in the direction of the umpire's chair.

Even Mayotte, who benefited from the distraction to Connors, was visibly annoyed with the crowd and was booed when he shouted for them to be quiet. "They were repeatedly making loud ovals for the basketball game during the tennis," the 23-year-old grumbled afterwards.

"If they had wanted to see the basketball, they should have bought tickets to the game."

Mayotte used his powerful serve to leave Connors floundering at the start. But Connors broke Mayotte early in the second to take a 2-0 lead and, although he lost his own serve immediately, kept up the pressure to level the match in the 12th game.

In the third set he broke Mayotte in the fourth and sixth games, again losing his own in between, to take a grip on the match and clinched victory with service breaks in the fifth and final games of the fourth set.

Arias took command from the start against Teltscher in a battle of baseline specialists. He was rarely troubled, except for a brief spell during the third set, and combined his crisp service game with heavy topspin forehands and backhands to unsettle his 25-year-old opponent.

He broke Teltscher's serve in the seventh game to take the first set and went on to take a two-set lead after breaking his opponent in the opening game of the second.

Teltscher had a chance to hit back in the third when he took Arias's serve to lead 5-3 and then held a point for the set. But the young American regained his composure and swept the next four games for the match.

Asked if he would prefer to be playing Connors or top-seeded John McEnroe in the semifinals, Arias replied with a smile: "Neither guy is a pushover, but I probably have a better chance against Connors than McEnroe."

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(Colour)

"Italian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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(Colour)

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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema Tel: 22117
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1- FREEDOM TORCHES (Colour)
2- THE RETURN OF THE BLACK DRAGON (Colour) "Karate"

Performances: 12-3 - 7

Cinema Tel: 22198
RAGHADAN

DOSTANA

(Colour)

"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Giant merger wins approval

WASHINGTON (R) — Washington Thursday conditionally approved the largest corporate merger in U.S. history — Standard Oil California's (Socal) acquisition of Gulf Corporation for \$13.4 billion.

In a 4-1 vote, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) said the two oil companies could merge if they divested assets worth several hundred millions of dollars to eliminate monopoly problems.

Socal — more widely known as Chevron — needed approval by the FTC, which enforces anti-monopoly laws, before it could complete acquisition of Gulf's outstanding stock for \$80 a share.

Pennsylvania-based Gulf had agreed to be taken over by Socal in order to escape a takeover bid by Mesa Petroleum.

"We believe we have eliminated the anti-competitive effects of this merger," Mr. Timothy Muris, the FTC's top anti-monopoly official, told a news conference.

The previous largest merger

was Texaco Incorporated's purchase of Getty Oil Company for \$10 billion in January.

Oil industry analysts regarded approval of the Socal-Gulf merger as an indication that the government would also approve Mobil Corporation's \$5.7 billion bid for acquisition of Superior Oil, which is pending before the FTC.

A settlement between Socal and the FTC requires divestiture of substantial Gulf assets, including wholesale and retail marketing properties and a major refinery, all in the southeast, and Gulf interests in some pipelines.

Industry analysts said the acquisition of Gulf would give Socal advantages by expanding its crude oil supplies and increasing operating efficiency.

The FTC required that Socal delay integrating Gulf's domestic operations with its own until the divestitures were completed.

The combined company would be the second largest in assets among U.S. oil firms after Exxon Corporation, Mr. Muris said.

World trade rises in 1983

GENEVA (R) — World trade increased by two per cent in 1983, regaining its 1980 levels, and is set to expand further this year, the director-general of the world trade body GATT has said. Mr. Arthur Dunkel said that if trade stabilised at its present levels, 1984 would show a four to five per cent increase over 1983. The growth rate was much faster in the second half of 1983 and seems still to be increasing, said Mr. Dunkel, head of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Mr. Dunkel said increased exports to the United States accounted for one half of last year's net growth in world trade.

ITT wins Turkish deal

STUTTGART (R) — The International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) group said Wednesday it had won a major contract to modernise Turkey's telephone system over the next 10 years. ITT's West German unit Standard Elektrik Lorenz (SEL) said the group's Belgian subsidiary Bell Telephone Manufacturing received a contract from the Turkish authorities to install 3.4 million connections in seven towns, including Ankara and Istanbul, using ITT's system-12 technology. SEL said the first part of the deal was worth \$300 million but it gave no total value for the contract. Most of the equipment will be produced under licence in Turkey, it added.

IMF to lend Peru \$340 m

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Thursday approved a \$340 million loan to assist debt-ridden Peru. Peru will be able to receive \$250 million over the next 15 months under what the international lending agency calls a standby arrangement. It can receive the rest of the loan immediately because it has suffered export problems. In exchange, it must introduce major belt-tightening measures to bring the economy, overheated by deficit spending and other problems, under control.

Damascus, Berlin promote links

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria and East Germany signed an agreement on economic, scientific and technical co-operation Thursday, Syria's official news agency SANA reported. The new protocol, valid for five years, was signed by visiting East German Deputy Premier Gunther Kleiber and Syrian Deputy Premier for Economic Affairs Mr. Abdul Qader Qaddoura. SANA said it covered the completion of Syrian projects under construction and the promotion of economic links in the electricity, industry, agriculture, transport, communications and trade sectors.

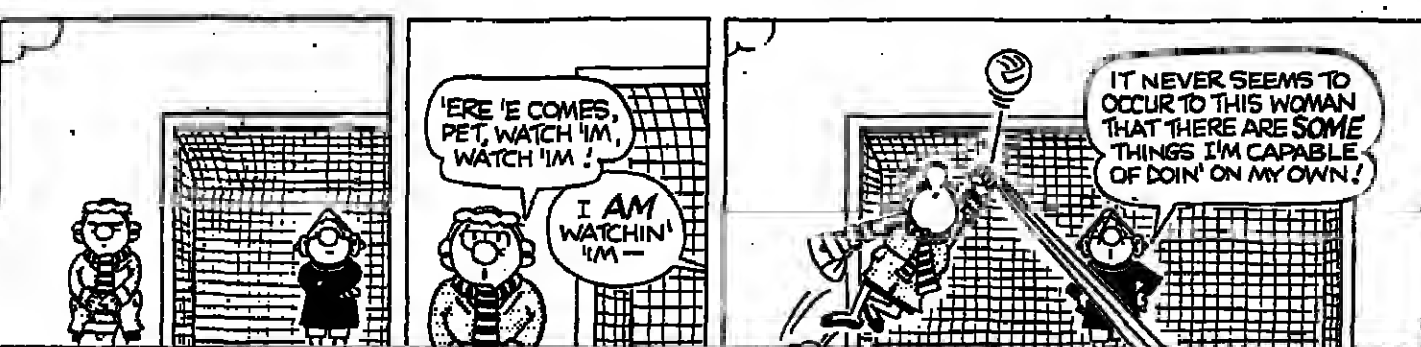
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Japan eases trade curbs in new economic plan

TOKYO (R) — Japan eased its import curbs Friday in an economic liberalisation programme which foreign experts believed would have only marginal effect on the nation's huge and growing trade surplus.

Under the programme tariff cuts on items ranging from peanut butter to machinery will be introduced sooner than previously planned.

Most were made conditional on reciprocal gestures by Japan's trading partners. But the package made only general references to other controversial areas like opening the domestic market to high technology imports and permitting foreign access to Japan's rich financial and capital markets.

The plan did offer some concessions on another dispute, restricting Japanese standards for testing foreign goods before allowing them into the home market. In presenting the programme

Japan's minister of international trade and industry (MITI), Mr. Hikosaburo Okonogi, said it embodied "a global viewpoint based on independent Japanese decisions."

Diplomats said they needed time to study it. But some foreign experts doubted it would do much to remedy Japan's trade surplus which the government estimates at \$34 billion over the past year.

The United States has long been pressing for access to Japan for its satellite communication equipment and other high technology material.

Mr. Okonogi's plan promised only appropriate but undefined steps on this issue and on U.S. objections to Japanese plans for

reduced copyright protection for computer software imports.

On liberalisation of financial and capital markets, another subject of strong American pressure, the plan said this would be dealt with "independently, actively and gradually" with detailed measures expected late in May.

Friday's package grew out of pledges exchanged last November between Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and President Reagan.

Since then top U.S. officials have visited Tokyo complaining about slow Japanese progress.

Other foreign leaders have echoed the theme. Only Thursday visiting British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe observed that previous Japanese liberalisation steps appeared to have had no effect in the trade surplus.

The imports programme was announced amid increasing warnings from the United States and

Western Europe that Japan's exports could run into a damaging wall of trade protection unless its own markets were opened.

Mr. Nakasone has shown concern that the topic should not flare as a factor in the U.S. presidential election campaign.

He also is keen to have some Japanese concessions to cite when he attends the London summit of industrial democracies in June.

Against these pressures have to be set domestic political con-

straints in a year when Mr. Nakasone must win re-election to leadership of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) if he wants to remain as prime minister.

Political sources said last minute discussions within the LDP persuaded the government to drop some planned concessions, including scheduled tariff cuts on paper products, requested by the United States, and on wine requested by the European Community.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Do not push matters. If you go along with whatever occurs, you will have a pleasant surprise. Not a good time to borrow nor to lend money nor to take any risks.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) It is best to be with good friends and not get involved with others. Any public work will not turn out well.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be more concerned with improving your image and don't go off on any tangents. A friend may come to you for help so do your best.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Go out to new sites and meet interesting people, and avoid a business tie who is looking for trouble. Be patient with your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Steer clear of a self-opinionated man today and be with persons who are more modern and progressive.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into more modern ways of doing things and you can be more successful. Join with co-workers at leisure.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get out to fun places with your mate and have a delightful time together. Avoid grouches. Be imaginative.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take a little trip with a good partner and put aside worries and tediums of everyday business for now. Drive with care.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A co-worker will join you in some plan you have that can be mutually helpful. You can accomplish a great deal of practical matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan to have as good a time today as you possibly can. Don't get involved in some monetary scheme.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Meet the one you like at a restaurant and be happy together. Handle only that work that is necessary in the morning.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't fume about some worrisome situation; do something constructive about it. Enjoy long-neglected pleasures.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Approach bigwigs for any favors you need. A friend can be too possessive, so avoid for the time being. Be wise.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will have every opportunity to gain fame provided that early in life your progeny does not get embroiled in something ultra, ultra modern that has no substance. Teach to be discriminating in all things.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by Dorothea E. Shipp

ACROSS

1 Wire

6 George or Artie

10 Beverage

14 Parture

15 Root

16 Max. load

18 Leather bottle

17 More likely to cause

19 Olive genus

20 Hardy girl

21 Nothing

22 Honor

24 Inquire

25 — Lippo

26 Fuel

27 Piggy bank

28 Chloride

32 Road hazard

35 Gummed paper

36 Heist

37 March

38 Allergy

42 Listena

45 Pancake makers

46 Heath

47 Portabla shelter

48 Ramnart

49 Ex. exclamation

52 Scanty

55 Sch. aubj.

56 — Nazimova

57 South of France

58 Fragrant tree

61 Straw in the wind

62 London gallery

63 Threefold

64 Plank or way

65 Pung

66 Units of force

DOWN

1 — Roca

2 Fr. city

3 Invigorating word

4 Flanges

5 Sixth sense

6 Grooved

7 Greeting

8 Aviator

9 Exhausted

10 One who tawns

11 She. Fr.

12 Sword

13 Quantity of paper

18 Join up

23 Rant's garment

25 Potty Holiday

26 Tiny lengths: abbr.

27 Kind of catch

29 Like

30 Tike care

31 Units of work

32 History

33 Point — return

34 — bian

39 Omega's relatives

40 Borgnine and Hemingway

41 Plane

42 Battered

43 Friendly islands

44 Weight for wool

45 Bitter drug

50 Duplicate

51 Sheol

52 Los Angeles problem

53 Egyptian cotton

54 Arab port

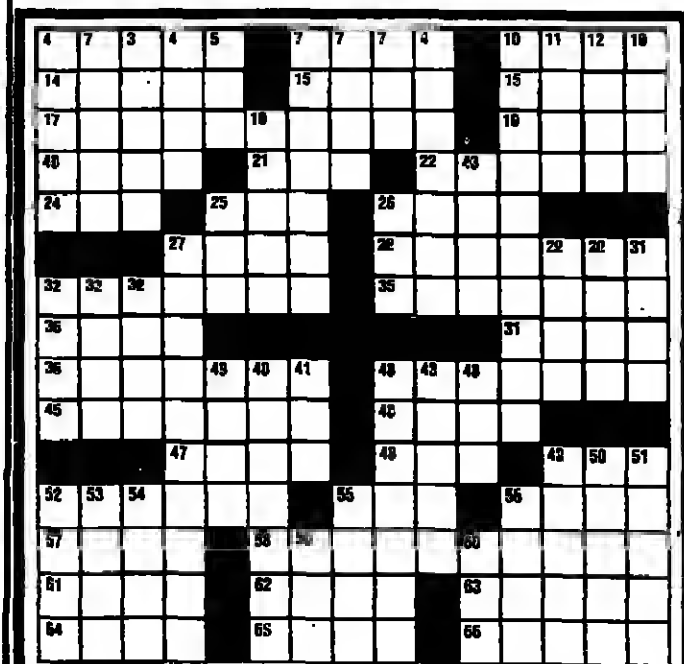
55 Heraldic

56 Tarn

58 Wrong

59 Indian

60 Business abbr.



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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed firmer but below the day's best levels amid light profit-taking as the extended Easter account came to a quiet close. Dealers said, Thursday's encouraging company news and higher close on Wall Street lifted the F.T. 30 index 7.8 to a record 906.9 at 1000 hours by 1500 the index had drifted back to 905.5.

Market leader ICI was up 8p to 628 after 632 helped by Thursday's higher than expected first quarter results.

Government bonds recovered 1/4 point of opening 1/4 point declines helped by steadier sterling in thin trading. Dealers said, Gold shares eased and North Americans were mixed.

Royal Bank of Scotland ended 18p higher at 240 after renewed bid speculation while Babk of Scotland added 17p to 669 in sympathy. The main clearers eased where changed with Natwest off 5p at 662 and Barclays 2p down at 502.

Commercial Union fell 4p to 217 and Phoenix eased 5p to 448 both on profit-taking as recent bid talk faded, dealers said. Other insurers were mixed with Refuge up 10p to 456 and Royal down 7p to 568.

Norsk Hydro rose among oils by £4 to 60 1/4 having touched 61 1/4 after improved first-quarter profits while Clyde firmed 15p to 143 on hopes from its well in the Solent.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling:	1.4035/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar:	1.2797/94	Canadian dollars
	2.6973/83	West German marks
	3.0390/0400	Dutch guilders
	2.2265/75	Swiss francs
	54.95/98	Belgian francs
	8.2750/2800	French francs
	1671.50/1672.50	Italian lire
	226.10/20	Japanese yen
	7.9520/9620	Swedish crowns
	7.6925/7025	Norwegian crowns
	9.8900/9000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold:	377.25/377.75	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BICAN

WETET

TULJYS

THROCC

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOUSY EMERY QUENCH MAMMAL

Answer: What the Pharaoh who ate crackers in bed was—A CRUMMY MUMMY

China calls for new talks on nuclear arms reduction

PEKING (R) — China Friday urged the United States and the Soviet Union to resume nuclear arms reduction talks and said it opposed some U.S. actions in Central America, Chinese officials said.

In a meeting Friday morning between President Reagan and Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang, the officials said the Chinese premier had what he termed a friendly and serious review of international affairs.

He was quoted as saying he hoped the United States would halt deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe while the Soviet Union should stop what he called its counter-measures.

He urged the superpowers to return to the negotiating table to work out an agreement on nuclear arms reduction and said if this was not done it would mean an inevitable and progressive escalation of the arms race in Europe.

Mr. Zhao said China was concerned about the continued increase of nuclear missiles deployed in Asia by the Soviet Union.

He said the Soviets should reduce their missiles in Asia and destroy them.

The Chinese officials quoted Mr. Zhao as telling Mr. Reagan his country wanted to normalise relations with the Soviet Union.

First Vice-Premier Ivan Arkhipov is expected to visit Peking in mid-May for talks likely to focus on expanding trade and technical co-operation.

But Peking insists that Moscow remove its military threat to China, the officials added.

The officials, briefing reporters on the meeting, said the talks covered a broad range of international topics, from the Middle

East to South Africa and tension on the Korean peninsula.

China voices concern

On Central America, the officials quoted Mr. Zhao as saying: "China is very much concerned about the worsening tension in Central America by any big power and we are not in favour of some practices of the United States in this region."

"We hope that the United States will support the efforts by the Contadora Group for relaxation of tension in Central America," he said. The group links Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama.

The officials did not give details of Chinese objections.

Mr. Zhao called on Mr. Reagan to consider dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to break the current deadlock in the Middle East, and said the Palestinian question remained the core issue in that region.

A second meeting with Mr. Reagan later Friday was expected to concentrate on bilateral issues, including the thorny question of Taiwan, which both sides say remains the chief obstacle to further improvement of ties.

Prospects for boosting Sino-U.S. trade will also be on the agenda, the aides said.

The announcement Friday that Peking and Washington had finally concluded a nuclear co-operation agreement after three years of often tough negotiations

got the presidential visit off to a good start, diplomats here agreed.

A senior Reagan administration official, announcing the pact, stressed it was not a commitment to supply reactors and nuclear material but rather "a framework agreement which specifies the guarantees and controls under which supply may take place."

\$20b contracts

However the text, to be initiated here on Monday in the presence of Mr. Reagan and Mr. Zhao, opens the way for U.S. industry to bid for contracts worth up to \$20 billion to help China develop its nuclear energy sector.

Mr. Reagan's first contact with the Chinese leaders came shortly after his arrival in Peking Thursday afternoon when he had a 35-minute discussion with President Li.

A senior U.S. official said afterwards Mr. Li's words convinced Mr. Reagan that Peking wanted to improve relations with Washington despite deep differences over U.S. ties with Taiwan.

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes quoted the Chinese leader as telling Mr. Reagan: "We both hope that serious relations will continue although some obstacles exist... our friendship exists to the 21st, the 22nd and the 23rd Century — for all time."

The senior official, who asked not to be identified, said: "We believe this is a significant statement by the Chinese."

Nevertheless U.S. officials expect there to be blunt speaking about Taiwan during Mr. Reagan's talks with Mr. Zhao and Mr. Hu, and particularly Saturday when he meets the country's supreme leader, Mr. Deng Xiaoping.



Konstantin Chernenko

Chernenko planning new party programme

MOSCOW (R) — President Konstantin Chernenko is drafting a new long-term programme for the Soviet Communist Party to replace the discredited and over-optimistic policy goals set out by Nikita Khrushchev in 1961.

The party daily Pravda said Thursday that Mr. Chernenko had outlined his basic ideas for the new document at the meeting with a special commission of the party's Central Committee Wednesday and stressed that above all it should be realistic.

In 1961 programme, which is still theoretically in force, predicted that the Soviet Union would overtake the West in economic terms by 1980 and begin building a truly Communist society based on high living standards for all.

The programme has long been a source of embarrassment for subsequent party chiefs and there have been frequent references to the need to draft a new one.

But Western diplomats said Thursday they were surprised that Mr. Chernenko had so firmly committed himself to producing a new programme in time for the next party congress in 1986.

"This could open a whole can of worms and well prove more trouble for the party leadership than it is worth," one said.

De Lorean lawyer calls for dismissal of charges

LOS ANGELES (R) — A lawyer for John De Lorean called Thursday for the dismissal of all drug charges against the carmaker because an undercover government agent admitted rewriting and adding to his notes on the case.

The agent, Benedict Tisa, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said under intense cross-examination by Chief Defence Lawyer Howard Weitzman that he added to his original notes as long as a year after his investigation ended.

U.S. District Court Judge Robert Takasugi took the defence request to drop the charges under submission.

Mr. Tisa, who posed as a corrupt banker in the De Lorean case, told the court earlier that Mr. De Lorean agreed to invest money in a cocaine deal in an unsuccessful attempt to save his car factory in Belfast, Northern Ireland, from being closed by a British receiver.

"You can't destroy evidence," Mr. Weitzman told reporters after Thursday's court session. He said the rewriting of notes was part of what he called a continuing pattern of the government "hiding the ball."

Mr. De Lorean, 59, who was arrested in Los Angeles in October 1982 is accused of conspiring to import 100 kilograms cocaine estimated to be worth \$24 million.

Kennedy family stalked by nearly half a century of tragedy

NEW YORK (R) — For nearly half a century, tragedy has stalked the family of Joseph and Rose Kennedy, despite a clean-like aura of fame, power and wealth.

Of the couple's nine children, four have been killed and with the death on Wednesday of David Kennedy, son of the late Senator Robert Kennedy, one of their 29 grandchildren is gone.

After making a fortune, Joseph Kennedy entered public service and pinned the family's hopes on his eldest son, Joseph Kennedy Jr. But Joe Jr. died in plane crash over Europe during World War II.

His younger brother, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, rose to become president of the United States but was assassinated on Nov. 22, 1963, by Lee Harvey Oswald.

Less than five years later, on June 5, Robert Kennedy was shot dead as he celebrated his victory in the California Presidential Primary election at a Los Angeles hotel.

Soviets reject U.S. chemical ban plan

GENEVA (R) — The Soviet Union Thursday formally rejected a United States proposal for a treaty outlawing chemical weapons, telling the 40-nation Disarmament Conference the plan would seriously set back negotiations on the issue.

Moscow's chief delegate Viktor Israelyan told delegates the U.S. draft, tabled last week by Vice President George Bush, contained "deliberately unacceptable" provisions for verification and was aimed simply at hiding American plans for a big chemical rearmament programme.

"Putting forward demands for unimpeded access to the territory of other states continues to block the achievement of agreements on a chemical weapons ban."

"In reality the American draft can only set back negotiations on a chemical weapons ban by many years," Mr. Israelyan said in the first official Soviet response to the U.S. plan.

Washington's chief negotiator Louis Fields told the conference

the draft had not been presented on a "take-it-or-leave-it" basis.

"We are ready and willing to consider alternative approaches and alternative formulations, so long as these would provide an effective ban," he said.

In a separate development Thursday, an official U.S. source said Washington had requested private bilateral talks with the Soviet Union in an attempt to make progress on the chemical weapons issue.

Mr. Fields handed the request to Mr. Israelyan on April 19, the day Mr. Bush tabled the new U.S. proposals, the source said.

So far there had been no response from Moscow but "we are hopeful close and continuing bilateral talks can begin on the margins of the conference," the source said.

Though Washington believed the focus of negotiations should remain within the full conference, he added, "in some issues it is essential to work at problems privately with the Soviets."

Mr. Israelyan, who told Mr. Bush Moscow would study the draft "as we study all documents submitted by any delegation", asked the conference: "Why was it necessary for the United States to put forward such a proposal deliberately unacceptable to the Soviet Union and many other states?"

"We are deeply convinced it was done merely to try to cover, by the big noise of publicity around the American draft, what the American administration is really engaging in — intensive preparations to implement a \$10 billion chemical rearmament programme proclaimed by President Reagan."

The U.S. scheme proposed that governments should agree to open for quick international inspection state-run or state-controlled chemical facilities.

It was attacked in the Soviet media both before and after its unveiling as an "unacceptable propaganda ploy."

Moscow pledges support for Afghanistan

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet leadership Thursday pledged to maintain its military backing for the pro-Moscow government in Afghanistan and help establish its authority over the country.

In a message to President Babrak Karmal on the sixth anniversary of the Communist takeover in Kabul, the Kremlin said Afghanistan was now a "brother country" for the Soviet Union

which could rely on Moscow's aid and support.

"The Soviet Nation will continue to provide internationalist aid for the defence of the gains of the April revolution and the creation of favourable conditions for the country's advance on the path of creative development," it added.

The Soviet media have so far made no mention of a major military offensive which Soviet and Afghan troops are reported to have mounted against anti-Communist guerrillas in the Panjsher Valley north of Kabul.

During more than four years of involvement in Afghanistan, Moscow newspapers have seldom referred directly to Soviet military action at all and instead portrayed the troops as providing back-up for the Afghan Army.

Four killed, many injured in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — At least four people have been killed and several injured in renewed violence in the north Indian state of Punjab, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said Friday.

The agency said an electrician was shot dead by extremists Thursday night in the Sikhs' holy city of Amritsar, where Sikh leaders met in a surprise move to resolve a deep rift over their campaign for

religious and political concessions in the state.

A police spokesman told Reuters at least two people died and a number were wounded Thursday when men on the roof of a Sikh shrine in the Western Punjab town of Moga fired at members of the paramilitary Border security Force (BSF). Shots were exchanged for more than two hours, he added.

PTI said a cloth merchant was also killed by gunmen in a village in Punjab's Faridkot district. Sikh extremists Thursday systematically dynamited stretches of railway track linking Firozpur, a town on the Pakistan border, with Fazilka and Bhatinda. They also damaged a bridge on the Firozpur-Jalandhar line. No casualties were reported in the bomb blasts.

Cosmonauts' maintenance work delayed

MOSCOW (R) — A nut that refused to turn delayed Soviet cosmonauts' maintenance work on the Salyut-7 space station during a spacewalk Thursday, a Soviet newspaper reported Friday.

Snatches of conversation between the cosmonauts and ground control, published in the trade union newspaper Trud Friday, showed that the cosmonauts had to make several attempts to remove a nut on a reserve fuel conduit they were servicing.

"Have you managed to move the nut a bit?" asked former Cosmonaut Yuri Romanenko at Moscow Mission Control.

"Nope. No Way," answered Cosmonaut Leonid Kizim from outside the space station. "The fourth spanner won't grip."

"Try to hit the nut with some-

thing," suggested Romanenko.

"We've tried. We brought a hammer with us," said the second spacewalker Vladimir Solovoyov. "We've knocked and knocked on it but with no effect."

After several more exchanges with Earth in which the cosmonauts said they were afraid they might damage a vent on the fuel system by hitting the nut, ground control advised the cosmonauts to try to different type of wrench.

"One, two and off it comes," shouted Kizim at one stage.

But his delight was ill-advised as the nut remained stuck and the cosmonauts had to spend another 40 minutes while their spacecraft was in the dark shadow of the earth before it came off and the maintenance work could be

completed.

The two cosmonauts spent five hours working in space outside their orbital home Thursday, the second time in three days that they had gone out on lifelines to do maintenance work on the spacecraft.

The difficulty with the nut delayed their work Thursday so long that mission control ordered the cosmonauts to break off work and go back inside to resort leaving the job to be completed on another spacewalk.

Kizim, Solovoyov and medical researcher Oleg Atkov, who remained on board the Salyut during the spacewalk, have been in orbit since February and are expected to remain in space for several more months.

Experts unveil plans for planetary probes

HEIDELBERG, West Germany (R) — Proposals for vehicles to roam the planet Mars and a new craft to explore the asteroids have been made public by scientists preparing the first joint U.S.-European projects in planetary space.

The projects, planned for 1992 and beyond, were developed over the past two years by a working group of 12 experts, six from Europe and six from the United States, and presented during a symposium for about 100 scientists here Thursday.

The first of the proposed space journeys, a seven-year trip to soft-land and instrument package on Saturn's moon Titan, would be launched in 1992 if approved by the governments involved.

The most ambitious scheme, costing over \$1 billion, would set

three "semi-intelligent" wheeled vehicles on Mars to roam the surface independently, sampling the climate, drilling the rock and measuring the topography.

Because of the delays involved in relaying instructions 36 million miles from Earth to Mars, the Rovers, propelled by nuclear power packs and rolling on large tyres, would require advanced computer intelligence to prevent them being damaged.

The three Rovers, joined to a centaur rocket, would be carried in the hold of a U.S. space shuttle on the first leg of their five-month journey to Mars, planned for 1996. The rocket would then be launched from an orbit high above Earth.

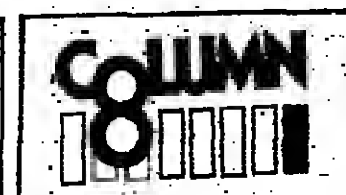
Frederic Taylor of the Clarendon Laboratory in Oxford,

England, said Mars was of special interest because it was earthlike with a thin atmosphere and close enough to land robot vehicles.

Comparison of its geology and climate could provide major insights into how earth developed and what might be in store for the home planet's fast-changing environment.

The mission to the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter envisaged long-term, close scrutiny of several bodies, a task requiring a new type of space propulsion in which Europe leads the field.

The group of experts was set up by the European sciences foundation and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences to combine intellectuals and technical resources on both sides of the Atlantic.



China uses spiders to catch flies

PEKING (R) — Chinese peasants are going back to nature to cut down agricultural pests, encouraging spiders to catch flies and wasps to attack fruit bugs, the China Daily reported Friday. Under the deadline Peasants Get the 'Bug-Eat-Bug' Bug, the newspaper said Chinese pest control programmes were now using integrated chemical and natural methods to combat insects and crop diseases. In southern China, it said, spiders and parasitic wasps were widely used to feed on rice pests, while wheat in other areas was protected by the natural enemies of the aphids that infest cereal fields.

200 couples married in joint ceremony

SEOUL (R) — Two hundred couples were married in a joint ceremony organised by a state-run corporation in Seoul, company officials said Friday. The newlyweds included Ku Tae-So, 62, and his bride Wu Chong-Ja, 45, who had lived together for the past 22 years and had nine children respectively from previous marriages. The officials said the Korea Export Industrial Corporation held the mass wedding Thursday to help its low-income workers and residents in its neighbourhood to save on wedding costs.

Fishermen haul giant sturgeon

VIENNA (R) — Bulgarian fishermen caught a giant 165 kilogramme beluga sturgeon from the river Danube at Vidin, north-west Bulgaria, the official BTA News Agency reported. It said the catch last week was a record: BTA said the beluga season got off to a fine start with Vidin fishermen on the first day alone hauling in over half a tonne of the giant sturgeons, from which 58 kilograms of caviare were obtained.

Mao's third wife dies

PEKING (R) — Chairman Mao Tse-tung's divorced third wife He Zizhen has died in Shanghai at the age of 75, the People's Daily said Thursday. The back page obituary in the official Communist Party paper did not mention her ill-fated marriage but portrayed her only as a prominent veteran Communist Party cadre. Mao, who died in 1976 aged 82, was married four times.

Liz Taylor denies reports of marriage

TAIPEI (R) — American actress Elizabeth Taylor Friday denied that she had been married in China to Mexican lawyer Victor Luna. Taylor said when she arrived for a week-long visit to Taiwan that press reports they had been married at China's Great Wall last week were "ingenious but untrue". The actress, who has been married and divorced seven times, told reporters she had no plans to get married in the near future. Commenting on her China trip, she quipped: "I did not expect any fans there. If there are, they must be pandas." Taylor said her films were not shown in China and she was not recognised there.

Zoo creditors kill rare beasts

TOKYO (R) — Creditors of a hard-up private zoo in Japan adopted a drastic style of debt collecting. They seized 11 rare animals, had them shot and sent them away to be stuffed for sale. Police at Nagano in central Japan told newsmen Friday that animal lovers had alleged the slaughter of four Siberian tigers, a leopard, four Malay bears and two Himalayan bears was illegal. Police said they decided that although the animals killed at the small Himokawa Moju Zoo late last year were on the endangered species list the case was a civil dispute, not a criminal violation.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ K1095 ♥ 7 ♠ 352 ♠ QJ93
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♠ Dble
What do you bid now?

A. — Offensively, you have quite a fair hand, but you do not have much to contribute in the way of defense should the opponents bid the hand. Jump to three spades. Over a takeout double, that action is preemptive. It might seem that you are too strong for this bid, but at this vulnerability, you should have a little something in reserve.

Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 95 ♥ AK93 ♦ KQJ4 ♠ KQ6
Partner opens the bidding with four spades. What action do you take?
A. — First, bear in mind that partner has made a preemptive opening bid. If he had a solid spade suit and an outside ace, he would have opened one spade. Therefore, slam must be at best on a fessne — at worst, it has no play at all. Pass, and take your profit.

Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ QJ7 ♥ KQ8 ♦ AQJ6 ♠ K98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass Pass 2 ♠
Pass Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?

A. — You have a maximum no trump opening and a superb fit for partner's suit, but you must still pass! Remember, partner could not act over your strong opening bid. He must have long diamonds and almost nothing in the way of high cards.

Q.4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ AQJ652 ♥ AK10 ♠ 952 ♠ 7
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
What do you bid now?

A. — We usually suggest that you rehid a good six-card major suit. Here, however, there are more important factors to consider. You have a good hand and fine support for partner's suit, so you should fix a playable suit as soon as possible to allow room for exploration about partner have slam aspirations. Raise to three hearts. If you fail to raise hearts now, partner will never believe you have such excellent trump support.

Q.5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ KJ5 ♥ J3 ♦ Q9652 ♠ Q106
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♥ Dble
What action do you take?

A. — You have only modest values, but if you don't act now, you may find it difficult to enter the auction at a later stage. You have a balanced hand with stoppers in all suits, and one no trump describes your hand perfectly.

Q.6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ Q83 ♥ K87542 ♦ 83 ♠ J7
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♥ Dble Pass
What action do you take?

A. — You must certainly not convert partner's takeout double to penalties — your trump suit quality leaves a great deal to be desired. And don't consider one no trump — that response suggests fair values. Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, so respond one spade.